

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 were pending in the Application. After entry of this amendment, Claims 1-20 are pending. Claims 6-20 were added. Applicants submit this Amendment in order to further clarify the invention described and claimed, without regard to any prior art.

Applicant submits that the Claims as amended are supported by the application as filed and do not add new matter. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner precisely identify teachings or suggestions in the prior art that would preclude patentability of the pending claims in the event that the Examiner is not in a position to allow the claims now pending.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**". Attached hereto is a clean version of the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**PENDING CLAIMS**".

The Application being in condition for allowance, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowance at an early date. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided below.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees for extension of time or additional claims, and/or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2319 (Order No. A-70543/RMA/KRG).

Respectfully submitted,

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1 **VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

2
3 1. (Original) A method for a computer repairing itself, the method comprising
4 the computer-executed steps of:

5 booting from a first boot device;
6 then, in response to a signal indicating a need for repair, booting from a
7 second boot device; and
8 then repairing software on the first boot device while booted from the second
9 boot device.

10
11 2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of repairing
12 software comprises:

13 copying software from a device other than the first boot device onto the first
14 boot device.

15
16 3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of repairing
17 software comprises:

18 copying software from the second boot device onto the first boot device.

19
20 4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of repairing software
21 comprises

22 copying template, backup and/or archive software from a device other than the
23 first boot device onto the first boot device.

24
25 5. (Original) A method for a computer repairing itself, the method comprising
26 the computer-executed steps of:

27 booting from a first boot device;
28 then, in response to a signal indicating a need for repair, booting from a
29 second boot device; and
30 then, while booted from the second boot device, copying template, backup
31 and/or archive software from the second boot device onto the first boot device.

32 6. (New) A method for a computer repairing itself to an operational status at any
33 time during operation, the method comprising the computer-executed steps of:

booting from a first hard disk drive boot device disposed within a main computer hardware box of the computer;

then, in response to receiving a signal indicating a need for repair of the computer during the booting or during any operating state, booting from a second hard disk drive boot device; the second hard disk drive boot device being physically present within the main computer hardware box of the computer prior to receiving the signal indicating a need for repair; and

then repairing software on the first hard disk drive boot device while booted from the second hard disk drive boot device and selectively either: (i) maintaining operation of the computer from the second boot device to restore operational status of the computer during repairing of the software on the first hard disk device, or (ii) changing to operation of the computer from the second boot device to the first boot device to restore operational status of the computer.

7. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein the step of repairing software further comprises:

copying software from a device other than the first boot device onto the first boot device, said device other than said first boot device being either said second boot device or a third device different from said first boot device and said second boot device; and

said copying of software including the copying of any application, operating-system, repair-process software, template, backup, archive software, boot record, a partition table, and a basic input-output system (BIOS).

8. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein the step of booting from a second boot device comprises:

automatically under computer control altering identification jumpers of a data storage device to be switched to logically and physically switch the second boot device to make the second boot device bootable.

9. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein the signal indicating a need for repair is either: (i) self-generated by the computer without human intervention; or (ii) generated by the computer in response to a single action by an external user, said single action selected

1 from the set of actions consisting of: pressing a key or combination of keys on a keyboard of
2 the computer and pressing or changing the state of a physical switch different from an on-off
3 switch of the computer and exposed on an exterior surface of the main computer hardware
4 box of the computer.

5 10. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein the step of repairing software
6 comprises: automatically repairing software on the first boot device according to preset
7 preferences without further direction from the user, the preset preferences designating to
8 repair the computer according to whether: to recover data, to run a virus check, to reformat
9 the first boot device, to revert to a backup, or to run diagnostics.

10 11. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein the step of repairing software
11 comprises: reformatting the first boot device and then copying software onto the first boot
12 device; or resetting parameters in a persistent memory and then copying software onto the
13 first boot device.

14 12. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein:

15 before booting from the second boot device, software is installed onto the second boot
16 device; and the installing software onto the second boot device comprises one of: (a)
17 installing software onto the second boot device; (b) copying installed software onto the
18 second boot device; (c) copying installation software onto the second boot device; and (d)
19 writing onto the second boot device a version of an operating environment running as a result
20 of the boot from the first boot device; and

21 after the installing software onto the second boot device and before the booting from
22 the second boot device, protecting the second boot device from further modification; the
23 protecting selected from the set of protective measures consisting of (i) switching the second
24 boot device to a state of unavailability; and (ii) switching the second boot device to a read-
25 only state.

26 13. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein:

27 the step of repairing software further comprises copying software from the second
28 boot device onto the first boot device;

1 the step of copying software further comprises copying any of application, operating-
2 system and repair-process software, and copying any of a boot record, a partition table, and a
3 basic input-output system (BIOS);

4 the step of repairing software further comprises copying one of template, backup and
5 archive software from a device other than the first boot device onto the first boot device;

6 the step of repairing comprises copying one of template, backup and archive software
7 from the second boot device onto the first boot device;

8 the step of booting from a second boot device comprises switching the second boot
9 device to make the second boot device bootable;

10 the step of switching comprises generating the signal indicating a need for repair;

11 the step of booting from a second boot device comprises one of logically switching
12 the second boot device, and physically switching the second boot device; and the step of
13 physically switching comprises altering identification jumpers of a data storage device to be
14 switched, or turning on or off the power to a data storage device to be switched;

15 the signal is generated by a user altering the state of a physical switch different from
16 an on-off switch of the computer and exposed on an exterior surface of the main computer
17 hardware box of the computer;

18 the step of repairing software comprises automatically repairing software on the first
19 boot device without further direction from the user according to preset preferences, the preset
20 preferences selected from the set consisting of repairing according to whether (i) to recover
21 data, (ii) to run a virus check, (iii) to reformat the first boot device, (iv) to revert to a backup;
22 (v) to run diagnostics, and (vi) combinations thereof.

23 14. (New) The method of claim 6, wherein before the step of repairing software
24 the following step is performed: offering a user a choice of thoroughness of repair selected
25 from the set of repairs consisting of a quick repair that re-installs or copies template software
26 without first re-formatting, a better repair that performs a high-level re-format before that
27 copy or re-installation of software, and a best repair that performs a low-level re-format
28 before copying over or re-installing software.

1 15. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein the signal indicating a need for repair
2 is either: (i) self-generated by the computer without human intervention; or (ii) generated by
3 the computer in response to a single action by an external user, said single action selected
4 from the set of actions consisting of: pressing a key or combination of keys on a keyboard of
5 the computer and pressing or changing the state of a physical switch different from an on-off
6 switch of the computer and exposed on an exterior surface of the main computer hardware
7 box of the computer.

8 16. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein the step of repairing software
9 comprises: automatically repairing software on the first boot device according to preset
10 preferences without further direction from the user, the preset preferences designating to
11 repair the computer according to whether: to recover data, to run a virus check, to reformat
12 the first boot device, to revert to a backup, or to run diagnostics.

13 17. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein the step of repairing software
14 comprises: reformatting the first boot device and then copying software onto the first boot
15 device; or resetting parameters in a persistent memory and then copying software onto the
16 first boot device.

17 18. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein:

18 before booting from the second boot device, software is installed onto the second boot
19 device; and the installing software onto the second boot device comprises one of: (a)
20 installing software onto the second boot device; (b) copying installed software onto the
21 second boot device; (c) copying installation software onto the second boot device; and (d)
22 writing onto the second boot device a version of an operating environment running as a result
23 of the boot from the first boot device; and

24 after the installing software onto the second boot device and before the booting from
25 the second boot device, protecting the second boot device from further modification; the
26 protecting selected from the set of protective measures consisting of (i) switching the second
27 boot device to a state of unavailability; and (ii) switching the second boot device to a read-
28 only state.

1 19. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein before the step of repairing software
2 the following step is performed: offering a user a choice of thoroughness of repair selected
3 from the set of repairs consisting of a quick repair that re-installs or copies template software
4 without first re-formatting, a better repair that performs a high-level re-format before that
5 copy or re-installation of software, and a best repair that performs a low-level re-format
6 before copying over or re-installing software.

7 20. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein before the step of repairing software
8 the following step is performed: offering a user a choice of thoroughness of repair selected
9 from the set of repairs consisting of a quick repair that re-installs or copies template software
10 without first re-formatting, a better repair that performs a high-level re-format before that
11 copy or re-installation of software, and a best repair that performs a low-level re-format
12 before copying over or re-installing software.